

60,246-236; 10,760

REMARKS

Applicant has amended this application in response to the office action. The Barrows reference, while utilizing a temperature difference, does so for a different purpose. Barrows is routing a refrigerant between a receiver and components within the refrigerant system. However, no determination is made about the total amount of refrigerant across the refrigerant system. Applicant's invention, in contrast, and as claimed, is a method and apparatus that determines when an undesirable amount of refrigerant is found within the refrigerant system. As set forth in the Background of the Invention section, such events as a loss of refrigerant charge can be detrimental. Thus, applicant's invention monitors certain characteristics within the refrigerant system and determines whether there is sufficient refrigerant within the refrigerant system. Barrows cannot meet the claimed limitations in that Barrows makes no determination about whether there is sufficient refrigerant within any refrigerant system, but rather simply routes refrigerant between various locations within the refrigerant system.

Certainly the warning limitations found in new claims 15-20 are not met by Barrows.

For the reasons set forth above, all claims are allowable. Notably, dependent claim 14 includes the limitations similar to that found in claim 5, and should be allowable as is claim 5. Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,




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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States patent and Trademark Office, fax number (703) 872-9306, on April 26, 2005.



Laura Combs